

July 27'62

Mr. Jean de Menil
3363 San Felipe
Houston, Texas

Copy for
Mr. Rarporodsky
De Mohrenschildt
EX 5

Dear Mr. de Menil:

I appreciated the opportunity you gave me of outlining the project in Haiti, West Indies. According to your suggestion I prepared a short memorandum relating to this project.

1. People Involved.

Charles, Clemard Joseph, President de la Banque Commerciale d'Haiti, the only Haitian bank in existence. His references: Irving Trust Company, 1 Wall Street, NYC, Mr. Joseph Walsh, International Division, Manufacturers Trust Company, 44 Wall Street, NYC, Mr. James Greene, V. President. American Express Company, 65 Broadway, NYC, Mr. Marshall S. Walker Jr. Vice President Overseas Banking. La Banque Commerciale d'Haiti in addition to usual banking activities is a sole representative of General Electric Ltd and of Siemens Schuckert Werke for Haiti.

Mr. B. Gindine-Tardieu, well known in France and England, came to Haiti in 1935 on behalf of an English Syndicate of Investment Companies to organize export of precious wood and build starch factories in the whole Carribean area. He later organized the total export of bananas in Haiti. Mr. Tardieu owns a chocolate factory in Port-au-Prince and has considerable real estate holdings. He is an adviser to the Banque Commerciale d'Haiti and Mr. Charles' spiritual father. This sounds strange but such is the case.

Mr. Tardieu's original investment of \$ 50,000 will be of real estate holdings and he will obtain debentures payable from the profits only.

George de Mohrenschildt (resume included) has an agreement with the Haitian Government, made through the Banque Commerciale d'Haiti, for a complete geological and geophysical survey of the country and will apport into the Holding Company the profits from this survey and eventual oil and/or mineral concessions.

2. The Holding Company, called tentatively Curtis Lee Inc., will consist of 100 shares of \$ 1,000 each. The money is to be spent exclusively on preparing projects, expensés and elaboration of agreements and guarantees in Washington and Haiti. It may participate jointly with the Banque and/or Haitian capital in the projects outlined below, but the main financing will be done by the joint American and Haitian interests under the auspices of the Alliance for Progress.

3. The projects that the Banque Commerciale is considering at present and in which she will participate are as follows: Building of inexpensive houses. 2. Building of a bonded warehouse. 3. Building of a wharf. 4. Building of a hydroelectric plant. 5. Organization of a Haitian Insurance Company. 6. Promotion of planting of tobacco to larger extent and construction of a cigar factory. 7. Lobster tail canning and freezing. 8. Manufacture of desiccated coconut with sugar. 9. Participation in a telephone system. 10. Cotton wool plant. 11. Operation of a sisal plantation and of factories already in existence. 12. Refining of vegetable oils. 13. Manufacture of containers for domestic oil distribution. 14. Manufacture of margerine. 15. Participation in building of small sugar mills near the existing cooperatives. 16. Building of a casino in Petionville. 17. Operation of a hotel mortgaged to the Banque. 18. Other projects which

G. de Mohrenschildt to
Mr. Jean de Menil; continued. Page 2.

come to the attention of the Banque Commerciale d'Haiti, among them production of local films.

4. The Holding Company expects to retain a small participation in all of these industries and enterprises by bringing the native and the American capital together and by preparing engineering studies for each project. The Holding Company will obtain the necessary Washington guarantees and the help of the Alliance for Progress. Each individual project will be presented naturally for consideration to the Banque Commerciale and to the partners in this Holding Company and they may decide to take a complete control of a project of their choice.

5. In arranging your eventual participation in the Holding Company, Mr. de Menil, I can follow any of your suggestions which may fit your tax situation. This is why the project is presented in such a fluid form.

6. At present Haiti is in the economic doldrums. A revival and a great boom is expected because of the proposed massive injection of the American money, because of the beneficial strategic position of Haiti between the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico, and because of the proposed combination of the private initiative, native and American capital and intervention of the Banque Commerciale in each transaction. U.S. Government help should not be underestimated - followed by the revival of the tourist trade with the confidence and because of the extremely safe geographic position of Haiti in case of an armed conflict.

Enclosed you will find a photostatic copy of the articles I showed to you in Houston, my latest communication with Tardieu and my resume.

Excuse this letter written in a great hurry.

Sincerely yours,

G. de Mohrenschildt

GIM/ss

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